

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): A recording tape cartridge comprising:

a reel which is accommodated in a case, and gear teeth are provided, along a circumference which is substantially coaxial with a reel hub around which a recording tape is wound, at a floor portion of the reel hub;

a braking member formed in a disc-shape, and a braking gear which can mesh with the gear teeth is provided at one surface of the braking member, and the braking member approaches and moves away from the floor portion in the reel hub so as to be positioned at a meshing position, at which the braking gear meshes with the gear teeth, and a released position at which a meshed state of the braking gear and the gear teeth is released;

a taper wall standing erect at the floor portion along a circumference which has a greater diameter than an outer diameter of the braking member and which is substantially coaxial with the reel hub,

wherein the braking member is supported at the case so as to be unable to rotate, and

accompanying operation of inserting the braking member in the reel hub, the taper wall guides the braking member to the meshing position at which the braking gear meshes with the gear teeth; and

a plurality of projections at the floor portion of the reel hub, and the gear teeth are provided at distal ends of the plurality of projections,

wherein the taper wall is provided ~~unitarily~~integrally with the plurality of projections at an inner peripheral surface side of the reel hub, and is radially aligned with the gear teeth, and wherein the taper wall is continuously inclined from an end of the gear teeth to the peripheral surface side of the reel hub, and wherein each of the plurality of projections, the taper wall and the gear teeth comprise a unitary body.

2. (Original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the taper wall is inclined continuously so as to move away from an axis of the reel hub, along a direction of moving away from the floor portion of the reel hub.

3. (Currently Amended): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the taper wall is formed in an ~~annular~~arc-shaped form along an inner surface of the reel hub.

4. (Previously Presented): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein a top end portion of the taper wall is formed so as to be positioned at a position which is further away from the floor portion of the reel hub than a lower end of the braking gear when the braking member is disposed at the released position.

5. (Original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, further comprising an urging mechanism which is provided between the braking member and a ceiling plate of the case, and which urges the braking member toward the meshing position.

6. (Original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, further comprising a releasing member which is provided between the braking member and the floor portion of the reel hub, and which moves the braking member toward the released position.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended): The recording tape cartridge of claim [[7]] 1, wherein the plurality of projections is formed at uniform intervals on a circumference which is coaxial with the floor portion.

9 - 10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended): A method of assembling a recording tape cartridge having: a case formed from an upper case and a lower case; a reel having a reel hub on which a recording tape is wound in the case, and gear teeth are provided along a circumference which is substantially coaxial with the reel hub, at an inner side of a floor portion of the reel hub; and a plurality of projections at the floor portion of the reel hub, and the gear teeth are provided at distal ends of the plurality of projections, wherein a taper wall is provided ~~integrally-unitarily~~ with the plurality of projections at an inner peripheral surface side of the reel hub and is radially aligned with the gear teeth; and a braking member formed in a disc-shape, a braking gear which can mesh with the gear teeth is provided at one surface of the braking member, and the braking member impedes rotation of the reel, wherein each of the plurality of projections, the taper wall,

and the gear teeth comprise a unitary body, and wherein the tapered wall is continuously inclined from an end of the gear teeth to the peripheral surface side of the reel hub,

the method comprising the steps of:

- a. disposing the reel at the lower case;
- b. placing the braking member in the reel hub such that the gear teeth and the braking gear mesh together; and
- c. joining the upper case and the lower case.

12. (Original): The method of assembling a recording tape cartridge of claim 11, wherein the recording tape cartridge further has a taper wall standing erect at the inner side of the floor portion of the reel hub along a circumference which has a greater diameter than an outer diameter of the braking member and which is substantially coaxial with the reel hub, the taper wall placing the braking member in the reel hub.

13. (Original): The method of assembling a recording tape cartridge of claim 12, wherein the recording tape cartridge further has an urging mechanism, and the method further comprises the step of disposing the urging mechanism between the upper case and the braking member.

14. (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing a recording tape cartridge having a braking member which impedes rotation of a reel which is accommodated in a case and on which a recording tape is wound, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. forming gear teeth at an inner side of a floor portion of a reel hub of the reel;

b. forming a disc-shaped braking member which can approach and move away from the floor portion in the reel hub, and a braking gear, which can mesh with the gear teeth, is provided at one surface of the braking member;

c. forming a taper wall which stands erect at the floor portion of the reel hub along a circumference which is substantially coaxial with the reel hub;

d. combining the braking member and the reel within the case by meshing together the braking gear of the braking member and the gear teeth of the reel hub;

forming a plurality of projections at the floor portion of the reel hub, and

providing the gear teeth at distal ends of the plurality of projections,

wherein the taper wall is provided ~~unitarily~~integrally with the plurality of projections at an inner peripheral surface side of the reel hub and is radially aligned with the gear teeth, and

wherein the tapered wall is continuously inclined from an end of the gear teeth to the peripheral surface side of the reel hub, and

wherein each of the plurality of projections, the taper wall, and the gear teeth comprise a unitary body.

15. (Original): The method of manufacturing a recording tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the taper wall is inclined continuously so as to move away from an axis of the reel hub, along a direction of moving away from the floor portion of the reel hub.

16. (Previously Presented): The method of manufacturing a recording tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the gear teeth are provided at distal ends of a plurality of projections which

project from the floor portion of the reel hub, and the taper wall is provided unitarily with the plurality of projections.